

FOIAb3b



CHICAGO, ILL.
AMERICAN

E. 438,422
S. 540,186

SEP 21 1965

CPYRGHT

CHICAGO'S AMERICAN editorial, "Blind Man's Buff at State," causes one to wonder just how efficiently our state department and super-secret central intelligence agency function.

Apparently Congress and the taxpayers are not allowed to know just how many employees make up the CIA, what its payroll amounts to, and what limit, if any, there is to its expense account.

One wonders why the alleged bribery figure mentioned by Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew was 3 million dollars instead of one million or maybe only \$500,000. However, in the free-wheeling era of the silly '60s, such an amount might be regarded as petty cash, if indeed it was offered. Lee was in receipt of a letter of apology from Dean Rusk, which appears to give some basis to his charge.

If such cloak-and-dagger bungling occurred in a private business firm, someone would be "unconditionally released to the minor leagues," as the saying goes in baseball circles.

A. H. WATERMAN